



## ZOONOTIC AEROSOL TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES STANDARD

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Zoonotic Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD's) are human diseases that are transmitted from animals to humans by infectious aerosols (dusts and respiratory secretions). The Cal/OSH Standards Board has adopted a standard to protect workers from diseases that can be spread in this fashion. This measure covers operations involved in animal handling and was crafted following the bird flu threat years ago.

The new regulation - General Industry Safety Orders § 5199.1 - applies to most employees who have contact with animals or animal remains as part of their job duties. Covered workplaces include operations that manage, capture, sample, transport or dispose of wildlife; veterinary/animal inspection/animal care operations in which animals are displayed, transported, or housed; and laboratories that process materials potentially containing zoonotic aerosol transmissible pathogens.

Under normal circumstances employers are to address zoonotic disease hazards under their Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) and existing sanitation regulations. The standard's new requirements are based on the status of zoonotic disease alerts by agencies responsible for issuing them. The applicable alert scenarios are as follow:

- Public alert issued regarding presence of Zoonotic ATD in a wild animal species;
- Workplaces Under Quarantine Orders from applicable State or Federal agencies;
- Work operations involving handling, culling, transporting, killing, or disposing of infected animals, or the disinfection of areas that contained them/their wastes.

### Effective Date

This new standard became law on **August 5, 2009**.

### Summarized Overview of Regulation

The Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) has prepared a draft summary sheet to assist interested parties in understanding how Section 5199.1 would apply in certain operations. This summary sheet is not intended to modify or replace the actual language of the standard and may undergo further revisions.

<http://www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb/zoonoticsInfoSheet.pdf>

### Additional Information

The actual document and additional information can be found on the OSH Standards Board website at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb/zoonotics0.html>